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—MEAN—

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Princess Theatre

PRESENTS

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The Peerless Queen of the Screen in an Artistic Offering

What Will People Say?

A METRO PRODUCTION

ALSO

Napoleon The Great and Sally His Mate

A One Reel Feature Comedy

Matinee 2.30 Evening 7.15-8.45

Admission—Adults 10c
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TOMORROW

Florence Rockwell

—IN—

The Paramount Production

He Fell in Love with His Wife

and Bray Cartoon Comedy

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Washings taken Monday returned by Wednesday. Washings taken Tuesday returned by Thursday. Washings taken later than Tuesday, returned at our convenience.

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Brattleboro, Vt.

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WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21, 1916.

HONOR COMPANY I.

When Company I marches to the station tomorrow morning to entrain for the state camp grounds at Colchester it should pass along a street filled with people all of whom should carry American flags. That is the least that patriotic citizens of Brattleboro can do to show their appreciation of their young men who in a moment of national danger are stepping forward to uphold the honor of town, state and nation in whatever capacity they are called upon to act. It would be natural for such a crowd to cheer, and yet the departure of the "lovel company" will be a moment for sober thought and solemn appreciation of the duty these boys are going forward to meet. Many of us have talked preparedness, but the boys of Company I are doing more—they are acting it.

VERMONT'S DUTY.

Immediately after the Vermont national guard was called to the service of the government in the spring of 1898 Governor Josiah Grant called the legislature in special session and recommended the enactment of a bill providing that all Vermonters in the service of the United States should receive extra pay from the state. Needless to say this measure was promptly passed.

Now that the First Vermont Regiment has again been summoned to federal service the state should again take action in this direction. Col. J. Gray Estey, for years commander of the Vermont national guard, already has taken the matter up with Governor Gates and it behooves all patriotic Vermonters to give the movement their hearty support. Vermont would be lacking in the fundamental principles of state pride if she failed to make every possible provision for the boys who are to uphold her honor in the nation's hour of need.

AS TO MEXICO.

The mobilization of practically the entire national guard strength of the United States, while not necessarily indicative of the intention of this country to go to war with Mexico, shows that the situation between the two countries is extremely grave. The effect of President Wilson's note to General Carranza flatly refusing to withdraw the American troops now on Mexican soil may cause the first chief to reconsider his threat to General Pershing, but it is more than likely that the excitable temper of the Mexican people has already reached a point where moderation is not to be thought of. In fact, events along the border are moving with such rapidity nowadays that by the time this is read the two countries may be in a state of war.

From the very first, the greatest trouble this country has faced in its attempt to bring order out of chaos in Mexico has been the deep ignorance of the great body of Mexican people. It has been an easy matter for the leaders in the revolution to spread throughout the country false impressions of the purpose of the United

States in her efforts to maintain peace and the sending of forces over the border has been easily magnified into a story of an invasion for conquest.

Over three months ago, following the raid of Villa bandits into Columbus, New Mexico, a punitive expedition was sent into Mexico for the purpose of capturing Villa or breaking his strength. Villa has not been captured; neither has his death officially been reported. Raids continue. The presence of American troops on Mexican soil has admittedly been an embarrassment to Gen. Carranza, who is trying after Mexican fashion to hold down his job as president of the bleeding republic, and it may be that he is sincere in his belief that he can accomplish his house cleaning better without help.

But Carranza cannot expect that the big republic north of him will sit idly by and allow raiding squads of his people to keep the Texas, Arizona and New Mexican border towns in a state of terror. If he is unable to control his people, he must expect help of some kind, and that is the purpose of the United States government just now.

In Massachusetts there is an organization of state, city, town and county employees that has passed a vote of censure of Governor McCall for his activity in behalf of the civil service extension bill. Ye gods and little fishes! If Massachusetts is being served by employees of that nature, the quicker the civil service is extended the better for all concerned.

The national guard of the United States is a considerable body of troops something like 140,000, and yet we read that the French losses around Verdun alone are approximately 365,000 while the total German losses since the beginning of the battle are close to 415,000. Such comparisons serve to bring home the magnitude of the European conflict.

Brattleboro ranked third among the towns of Vermont in the amount of life insurance paid during 1915—evidence of a particularly commendable form of preparedness.

The sneak thief who after four months returned silverware stolen from a Guilford street residence is at least to be given credit for having a conscience.

Barre, Bennington and some other Vermont towns that formerly supported militia companies must have anything but a "preparedness" feeling.

The Fish and Game Laws.

(St. Johnsbury Caledonian.)

The legislature of 1915 passed an act (No. 242) authorizing the justices of the supreme court to appoint a commissioner "to revise, re-draft, compile, consolidate and arrange in methodical order, and in plain and simple language, the public statutes of this state, so far as they relate to the general form of the Public Statutes of Vermont, with authority to omit redundant enactments, reject superfluous words, circumscribe and unambiguously phraseology, recommend amendments, and condense the whole into a concise and comprehensive form as is consistent with a full and clear expression of the will of the legislature, and report the same to the general assembly at its next biennial session."

In accordance with that law the justices have appointed Hon. Hale K. Darling, commissioner, and for months he has been engaged on this important work. We have no means of knowing how much revision he has made, but are informed that he has rewritten the fish and game laws of the state, changing them from statutes that prohibit everything that is not permitted in the statutes to statutes prohibiting certain acts by fishermen and hunters and allowing them to do everything not expressly prohibited. In other words he has rewritten the fish and game laws of the state, making them an entirely different set of laws from those enacted by the state legislature. He proposes to submit in a separate report, however, a revision of the fish and game laws in their present permissive form that the legislature may adopt in place of the entirely new code of these laws he has made. This was done in face of the protest of Fish and Game Commissioner J. W. Titcomb, who wrote the present form of the laws, and against the expressed wish of every fish and game organization in the state of Vermont.

Why has the commissioner done this? It becomes an interesting question. What authority has he for changing a statute enacted by the general assembly? The statute defining his authority says his revision shall be "a full and clear expression of the will of the legislature." The expression of the legislature was the permissive form of the fish and game laws, made by the legislature of 1915 after full and fair discussion before both bodies of that legislature. The Hon. Hale K. Darling was chairman of the committee on revision at that time and approved of the law as it was written and enacted. Now he proposes, at a considerable expense to the state, to undo the work of the legislature and substitute a one man effort for the work of an entire assembly fully empowered to enact the laws for the people of Vermont.

To our mind Mr. Darling is brazenly defying the thousands of members of the fish and game organizations of the state and the only legal authority for enacting law in Vermont, as well as the legislature which defined his authority in revising the statutes of the state. This seems an unequalled exhibition of dictatorship and an un-

necessary affront to the fish and game department of the state. Mr. Titcomb has given a tremendous amount of work and thought during the past twenty-five years to the development of the fish and game interests of the state. He rewrote and codified the fish and game laws of the state, formulating them in compliance with the judgment of the whole country. He changed the laws from complicated regulations which gave rise to considerable expensive litigation to clear and explicit regulations that the common man could understand and observe. Now an attorney is dictatorially changing the laws back into the form that brought fat fees to attorneys in defiance of public sentiment and the legally enacted statutes.

We do not believe the people will stand for such high handed proceedings. Mr. Darling as revisor of the statutes should embody in the revised statutes the present law and, if he wishes to do so, submit his proposed new laws in a separate report. This will be all the expense he is warranted in making the state and all he has a moral right to do to promote the interests of pettifoggery attorneys.

Senator Page Challenged.

(Rutland Herald.)

In an article published elsewhere in these columns, the Rutland Tribune asks Senator Page three pointblank questions and one implied question, possibly the queries of the Tribune are addressed to the incumbent of the office more or less in the interest of his neighbor, Allen M. Fletcher. In fact, their publication comes very near a personal challenge to Senator Page.

Let us see what they are:—
Starting them in the order of importance, as The Herald sees it, they might be stated substantially as follows:

What measure of constructive importance has Senator Page stood behind and carried to successful conclusion during his incumbency?

Did he vote "No" on the rural credits bill, and if so why?

Did he vote "No" on the protection of water powers, and if so why? Is he a candidate for re-election, and if so why does he not announce himself?

Beginning with the final question, The Herald will answer it, "Yes." It has had no such assurance from the senator, but his friends say he is a candidate, and, as a matter of fact, his campaign has been actively under way for some time.

The reason given by his friends for his failure to announce himself are insufficient, in a general way. They have something to do with senatorial tradition; there may be private considerations having to do with the federal statute setting a limit on campaign expenditure, but certainly no harm could be done by making a frank announcement and setting forth reasons.

The third question is interesting. The question of conservation is many-sided. No man in the country except Gifford Pinchot knows all there is to know about conservation and he is often wrong. Vermonters, however, would be interested in Senator Page's views, and no doubt the senator will be glad to explain his vote, "according to Vermont custom."

On rural credits, The Herald believes Senator Page voted right. Rural credits constitute a problem that has puzzled some of the greatest brains in finance, and certainly the problem cannot be solved by any such half-baked measure as that proposed by the present Congress, but in this respect, also, Vermonters would certainly give respectful hearing to the senator's reasons for voting against it.

As to the first and most important question, it may indicate a line of attack on Senator Page's defenses. Possibly it is unfair to judge a senator of the United States wholly on his accomplished work in constructive legislation. A junior senator has his way to make. He has much to learn and assuredly in a democratic Congress, where he finds himself in a minority, his handicap in such an accomplishment is considerable.

The Herald would say that a senator's vote, his care of his constituents and his diligence would be of just as much importance, and would be fully as interesting, but clearly if the challenge is calculated to "smoke out" the senator, he can lose nothing by taking his people into his confidence, as the Tribune suggests.

Publicity is likely to be a feature of the coming campaign, and no one knows better than Senator Page its great value. Why not enlist his newspaper friends in his behalf?

WUNN OALD PHELIH QUERIED.

Farmer Littleton Asks Questions

About Town Representation.

Having read the inspiring article by this anonymous author in last week's issue, I would like to have him answer the few following questions which his article has aroused:

What would be the result if the 139 small towns had a voice in the legislature in accordance with their population?

Is not the population of the 139 small towns composed of farmers, for the most part?

Are not the 276,000 residing in the large towns and cities dependent upon the 80,000 farmers for their food?

Is there any better way to rightly lower the cost of living than the proper protection and encouragement of agriculture?

Would the class of representatives sent from the large city be apt to put through such legislation?

What would be a fair estimate of the enormous damage done by deer throughout the state?

Would this proposed "city legislation" incline toward a better control of this and other pests?

Would he also advocate that Vermont be represented in the United States senate and house of representatives in exact proportion to her population?

Is not every organized town a unit in the state legislature?

Does might make right, and is it justice for the big fish to swallow the small one?

Respectfully submitted,
FARMER LITTLETON.

SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR

FIREWORKS DISPLAY

Plan Is to Raise \$150 in Addition to Guarantee of \$50, for July 4 Feature at Island Park.

To the Grown-Ups:
Inquiry of George E. Fox shows there is to be no Island Park presentation of fireworks this year. Two years ago they broke even. Last year they provided a \$250 display, losing \$112 of their investment plus cost of production.

In a talk with Mr. Fox I have induced him to agree to expend \$50 on behalf of Island Park provided the public of Brattleboro will subscribe \$150 so that a \$200 display can be produced. If this money is raised he agrees to put up an exhibition costing \$200 so set as to be equally well arranged for observation from both the Island Park grand stand and the points along the river occupied by the public last year. Mr. Fox expects to raise the \$50 contribution from the sale of grand stand seats, as before, to those who desire a close view of the display.

Unless \$200 total is subscribed there is to be no exhibition. Any sum in excess of this amount will be used to produce a more elaborate display.

This is an opportunity to add to a safe and sane Fourth of July display of fireworks which the children of Brattleboro will appreciate. More than one fourth of the cost is already guaranteed. A subscription book has been opened at the Brattleboro Drug Co. and the office of The Reformer, through their kindness.

In event of failure to raise \$150 by subscription the amounts subscribed will be returned.

In view of the loss sustained by the management of Island park last year, if attendance there is repeated they still face a deficit.

Every cent subscribed buys fireworks. I make this appeal to you personally because I enjoyed the 1915 exhibition and wish to see another this year. It is up to you now to secure a display for 1916 and show your appreciation for what was given freely last year and in 1914.

GEORGE W. CLAPP.

Brattleboro, June 21.

URGES STATE TO

RECOMPENSE TROOPS

Col. J. G. Estey Believes Vermont Should Take Similar Action to That Taken in 1898.

Editor of Reformer:

I hope the Reformer will earnestly support the effort that is being made to provide extra, or state pay, for the Vermont troops responding to the President's call. I have sent the following (telegram to Governor Gates):—
"I earnestly urge you to consider the question of taking the necessary action to provide extra, or state pay, for Vermont troops, responding to the President's call. I believe all citizens will approve action to this end as was done in 1898."

I suppose this cannot be done without the holding of an extra session of the legislature, as was done in 1898. I believe there is just as much necessity now as there was then for this generous and patriotic action on the part of our state and I hope you can see your way to urge this in your usual forceful manner.

Yours truly,
J. G. ESTEY.

June 20, 1916.

That Punctured Roof.

(Barre Times.)

If the item hadn't appeared in the extremely veracious Brattleboro Reformer, we should be inclined to doubt the story about hailstones "loosely puncturing" the roof of a house in the town of Brookline on Monday. Besides being truthful, The Reformer has an extremely vagarious summer on its side of the story.

Everyday Wisdom

By Don Herold

LETTER TO A YOUNG LADY.

Dear Ethel: Your last letter is very interesting as an exhibit, but I don't think much of it as a letter. Holding it up and looking at it at arm's length it is very interesting.

I notice that your letter is mostly paper. The space between the lines is several times greater than the space occupied by lines, and I observe that you use a penmanship that fills a line nicely with a minimum of words. These letters that you young ladies write, with lots of room between the lines, appeal to me as traps for young men to rush in where angels fear to tread. You believe in giving a young man lots of room for his imagination.

I don't like being left to my imagination. I refuse to read between the lines. When it comes to young ladies' letters, I want lines.

So your next letter, you will please write compactly. In your next letter I wish you would please write some lines. You and I are either going to get acquainted or we are not going to get acquainted.

Sincerely yours,

NOTE.

Somehow the above did not make a very big hit with Ethel. We guess it cramps Ethel to write closely. Ethel used to write us the bulkiest letters we ever received, and now that she has cut us off it will do a great deal to relieve the white paper famine.

Excursion to Plattsburg June 25, See ad on page 3.

THE LONGEST DAY OF THE YEAR



RANN-DOM REELS

Howard L. Rann
"Of shoes-and ships -and sealing wax-of cabbages-& kings"

THE ALARM CLOCK

The alarm clock is a vicious piece of mechanism which is used to murder sleep. More sound, tripletoned sleep is butchered every day in the year by this pernicious device than can be made up in a thousand years of sonorous slumber in a church pew, and yet no effort is put forth by our lawmakers to muzzle it. Why do we prohibit the use of the giant firecracker and curb the ambition of the amateur cornet player, while at the same time allowing the alarm clock to explode at 5:30 a. m. and wake everybody within two blocks of its roosting place?

The alarm clock has been in operation for only a comparatively few years. Our forefathers used a home-made imitation in the form of the Bull Cooch rooster, which rises at an unearthly hour and sings a plaintive melody which sounds a good deal like the opening bars of a Bach fugue. For a long time this humble bird was relied upon to awaken the neighborhood, and he performed his noble mission with the utmost fidelity and enthusiasm. Yet he has now been pushed aside by a tin terror costing sixty-nine cents, which goes into a long, convulsive spasm just when everybody else in the house is turning over for another snooze. And still we prate about justice and equality!

The inventive genius of man has added several blood-curdling attachments to the modern alarm clock which the early models lacked. For the small sum of \$1 you can buy an alarm clock which will discharge its vocal chords at the head of the bed for forty-five minutes, without stopping to take breath. It will then back up to the place of beginning and release a series of short, irritating barks, very soothing to the nerves of somebody in the next room who got in on the 4:20 train. All that is needed to make this instrument of torture perfect and complete is to equip it with a fire hose which can be turned on the placid face of an obdurate sleeper and cause him to rise in a damp and agitated condition.

After an alarm clock has been used every morning for several weeks it seems to lose its punch and persuasive power, and has to be suspended just above the right ear of the sleeper, where it can deliver its appalling message at close range. When resorted to at infrequent intervals, however, it should be wrapped up in a quilt and buried in a telescope grip in the closet, as it has a loud and aggressive tick which sounds like driving a Shetland pony over a wooden bridge. In flat buildings and apartment houses the use of the alarm clock should be prohibited by law, except when denuded with a comforter and limited to one short, sharp yell.

[Protected by The Adams Newspaper Service]

DADDY'S EVENING FAIRY TALE

BY MARY GRAHAM BONNER

PETER'S BIRTHDAY PARTY.

"Just as I always have to tell you all that goes on in Fairyland, so old Father Brownie has to tell all the Brownies stories of the little Boys and Girls."

"And I think this evening I will tell you Father Brownie's last story just as though it were my own."

"That will be lots of fun," said Nancy, "to hear one of Father Brownie's stories, for I suppose that what we think is just perfectly natural they think is quite queer."

"Well, it was a story of a little Dog named Peter Murray—a very bright little Fox Terrier. And above all things he loved Parties. You may think it strange, for a Dog to be so fond of Parties, but then you know animals really like to have just as good a time as Grown-ups do, and Peter Murray certainly did."

"It was his Birthday, and Peter was just one year old. His mistress was a little Girl named Inez and she was almost fonder of Peter Murray than of anything else in the world. Inez sent out invitations several days in advance to a number of the little Boys and Girls she knew who owned pet Dogs. The invitations read:

"Mr. Dog Peter Murray, 'At Home,' 'In Honor of his First Birthday.'"

"All of the little Dogs who were invited accepted and the day of the party came at last. The first thing that Inez did that morning was to rush over to Peter Murray's basket and say 'Many happy returns.' Now, of course, Peter Murray woke right up and was out of his basket with a bound."

"He jumped up and down for Inez, which was his way of saying, 'Thank you.'"

"You see they were not fussy, And Jumped for like Peter, and didn't sit down to eat their bones, for they had much more fun throwing them up in the air and playing with them. And then came the ice cream, which they ate out of little bowls, and for a surprise they had wonderful sugary cake, with a little Dog made in sugar on the top of it! Inez cut the cake, for in each piece she had to take out a little ball which were the presents Peter Murray gave to his guests on his birthday!"

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